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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : Not Yet Assigned **Confirmation No.:**
Applicant(s) : Steven M. Harris
Filed : Unknown
TC/A.U. : Unknown
Examiner : Not Yet Assigned
Title : COMPUTER PROGRAM FOR SECURELY VIEWING A
FILE

Docket No. : 3328.001
Customer No. : 30589

Mail Stop IDS
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Arlington, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

**List of Sections Forming Part of This
Information Disclosure Statement**

The following sections are being submitted for this Information Disclosure Statement:

1. Preliminary Statements
2. Form PTO-1449 (Modified)
3. Statement as to Information Not Found in Patents or Publications
4. Identification of Prior Application in Which Listed Information Was Already Cited and for Which No Copies Are Submitted or Need Be Submitted

5. Cumulative Patents or Publications
6. Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying this Statement
7. Concise Explanation of Non-English Language Listed Information Items
 - 7A. EPO Search Report
 - 7B. English Language Version
8. Translation(s) of Non-English Language Documents
9. Concise Explanation of English Language Listed Information Items (Optional)
10. Identification of Person(s) Making this Information Disclosure Statement

Section 1. Preliminary Statements

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information of which they are aware, which they believe may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.

Section 2. Form PTO-1449 (Modified)

A Completed Form PTO-1449 (Modified) is attached hereto.

Section 3. Statement as to Information Not Found in Patents or Publications (Information Not Listed in Form PTO-1449(Modified))

Methods for distributing password-protected content files are well known. Common example of such content files are .pdf files, Microsoft Word files, text files, WordPerfect files, or the like. Such files are commonly distributed by way of communication medians, such as the Internet. Such content files are commonly posted onto web sites where such content files can be downloaded by users. In certain instances, money is charged for the ability to download the content files, and in other instances such downloading is permitted for free.

In certain instances, such content files are protected by more than one password. For example, .pdf files commonly have two passwords: a user password, and an owner password. If a party knows the owner password, then such party can print the content file, save the content file under another name, or in general have all rights of the content owners. For this reason, many content owners will specify a user password which upon use provides the user with much less rights with respect to such file. Common user privileges would be only to view such content file. The user would typically not have the ability to print, make copies, or to distribute such content file.

There are two common manners to avoid the protection of the .pdf file. The first manner to avoid the protection accorded the .pdf file is to "capture" the screen to the computer's clipboard. Each captured screen is then saved as a separate file and then the separate files are then consolidated into a single file. The second manner is to use a password cracker program. For .pdf files, a product entitled "Advanced PDF Password Recovery" is available from ElComSoft Proactive Software. Elcomsoft's software requires the recipient of the content file to enter the "user" password. Under normal circumstances a distributor of a password protected PDF file, must disclose the user or "open" password to the user so they can open and view the file. By doing so they expose the "Owner" password to attack by ElComsoft's password cracker. Elcomsoft's program will "not" work if the user and owner passwords are unknown.

Thus, a need exists to distribute a password protected content file without revealing a password to the recipient or user. It is to such a system and method that the present invention is directed. With respect to PDF files, an attribute of the present invention is that the recipient or user cannot learn either the user or the owner password. Thus, the recipient or user cannot use Elcomsoft's program to attack the owner password.

Section 4. Identification of Prior Application in Which Listed Information Was Already Cited and for Which No Copies Are Submitted or Need Be Submitted

This application relies, under 35 U.S.C. § 120, on the earlier filing date of prior application Serial No. _____, filed on _____ (date).

(complete the following, if applicable)

This application also relies, under 35 U.S.C. 120, on the earlier filing date of prior application Serial No. _____, filed on _____ (date).

The following references were submitted to, and/or cited by, the Office in the prior application(s) and therefore, are not required to be provided in this application:

Section 5. Cumulative Patents or Publications

STATEMENT

_____ is cumulative of the following patents or publications listed on Form PTO-1449:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(c), a copy of only _____ is being submitted with this Information Disclosure Statement.

Section 6. Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying this Statement

Legible copies of all items listed in Form PTO-1449 (Modified) accompany this information disclosure statement.

Exception(s) to above:

- Items in prior application from which an earlier filing date is claimed for this application, as identified in Section 4.
- Cumulative patents or publications identified in Section 5.

Section 7. Concise Explanation of Non-English Language Listed Information Items

Section 7A. Concise Explanation of Non-English Language Listed Information Items - EPO Search Report

The relevance with respect to the following citations listed on Form PTO-1449:

is submitted on the basis of accompanying:

(check the appropriate item)

- EPO search report that is in the English language,
- EPO search report that is not in the English language and that is accompanied also by an English language version of the EPO search report,

that issued on the corresponding European patent application.

Section 7B. Concise Explanation of Non-English Language Listed Information Items - English Language Version of EPO Search Report

Section 8. Translation(s) of Non-English Language Documents

- Submitted herewith is an English translation of the following foreign language patents, publications or information or of those portions

of those patents, publications or information considered to be material:

(complete the following, if applicable)

- No English language translations of the foreign language parents, publications or information or parts thereof are readily available, except for those listed above.
- The following foreign language documents submitted are believed to be the equivalent or substantial equivalent of the English language documents identified below, which are also submitted herewith.

Section 9. Concise Explanation of English Language Listed Information Items (OPTIONAL)

Section 10. Identification of Person(s) Making this INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The person making this statement is the attorney who signs below on the basis of the information:

- supplied by the inventor(s)
- supplied by an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application (37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c)).

[X] in the attorney's file

Respectfully submitted,

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 Date Deposited: March 10, 2004

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known	
Application Number	Not Yet Assigned
Filing Date	Herewith
First Named Inventor	Steven M. Harris
Group Art Unit	Unknown
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	3328.001

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAM INIT.	Cite No. 1	U.S. PATENT NUMBER Number	Kind Code ² (If known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM- DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		None				

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAM INIT.	Cite No. 1	Foreign Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM- DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office 3	Number 4	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		None					

U.S. and Foreign: ¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard St. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

EXAM INIT.	OTHER MATERIALS	
Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published		
	None	

Non Patent Documents: ¹ Unique citation designation number. ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature:	Date Considered:
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. **Place of Publication refers to name of publication in which the information was published.